

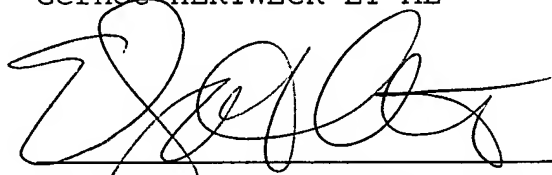
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. Claims 14 and 16 have been amended. Claim 15 has been canceled. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner rejected claims 14 and 17-22 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nally et al. in view of Buchanan et al. and Perry, and rejected claims 23 and 24 as being unpatentable over Nally et al. in view of Buchanan et al. and Perry and further in view of Seitter et al. The Examiner stated that claims 15-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended claim 14 to include the elements of claim 15, now canceled. Claim 16 has been amended to depend from claim 14. Applicants submit that amended claim 14 and claims 16-24, which depend from amended claim 14, are patentable over the cited references, taken either singly or in combination. Early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Gernot HERTWECK ET AL



COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802

Elizabeth C. Richter, Reg. No. 35,103
Attorney for Applicants

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 25, 2008


Amy Klein